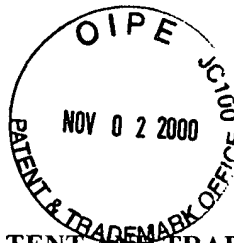


Docket No. 8697.001.00



GAU: 3611 \$
8/Election
Y. Smith
11/8/00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Stephen James DAVIS

GAU: 3611

SERIAL NO: 09/446,951

EXAMINER: M. Cuff

FILING DATE: February 28, 2000

FOR: STEP APPARATUS

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3600 MAIL ROOM

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

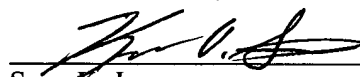
SIR:

In response to the Action mailed September 7, 2000, Applicant elects to prosecution the invention of Group I, Claims 1-5, drawn to a step mounted in lieu of a hitch, without traverse.

Early favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

LONG ALDRIDGE & NORMAN, LLP


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Date: November 2, 2000